



Spilyay Tymoo

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Tribes urging water conservation

Tribal Utilities is urging residents to conserve as much water as possible for the near future.

The problem is a pump that is down at the water treatment plant, leaving just one pump in operation.

Utilities is expecting the replacement part for the second pump to come in this week, said Roy Spino, tribal water engineer.

Once the new part is in and the second pump is running, the system

will take a few days to build up the reservoirs, Spino said.

Meanwhile, residents on the water system should stop watering their lawns.

Drought conditions

Tribal Council this summer declared a drought on the reservation. This is not directly related to the drinking water situation. However, the drought conditions do raise an

increased risk of fires.

In responding to fires, Warm Springs Fire Management uses available nearby surface water sources. The use of fire hydrants, which are on the tribal water system, is a last resort.

Warm Springs Fire and Safety relies more on the fire hydrants, though recently the department has been drawing creek water to fill the tankers. The water trucks fill up at

a site by the ballfields.

Water concerns are not new on the reservation. Last year the reservoir tanks nearly went dry in August.

The water system needs improvements to stop leakage, and tribal Planning has been working on a long-term solution, involving the installation of residential water meters and a possible rate system.

Tribes, feds meet on Measure 91

Oregon tribal leaders met recently at Kah-Nee-Ta for discussion of the impact on Indian Country of Oregon Measure 91, legalizing recreational marijuana in the state.

On hand were the Assistant U.S. Attorney for the District of Oregon, and a special agent with the federal Drug Enforcement Administration. Major crimes on the reservation, such as drug crimes, are prosecuted federally.

Stan Speaks, BIA regional director, and Dean Seyler, Portland Area IHS director, were among the speakers at the conference. Tribal Government Affairs Director Louie Pitt was the moderator.

Discussion focused on law enforcement questions raised by Measure 91, as well as health and welfare, and youth issues. "Marijuana is still a controlled substance," said Cam Strahm, Drug Enforcement officer.

It is still illegal under federal and tribal law, he said, but recent developments at the state level are taken into consideration.

The 2013 Cole Memorandum provides a federal policy as to prosecution priorities in states where marijuana is legal. Assistant U.S. Attorney Tim Simmons summarized the main points of the memorandum.

The Colo memo lists eight priorities for law enforcement to keep in mind when determining how to handle a marijuana case. The priorities include:

Preventing the distribution of marijuana to minors; preventing revenue from the sale of marijuana from going to criminal enterprises, gangs or cartels.

Preventing the diversion of marijuana from states where it is legal to other states; preventing violence and the use of firearms in the cultivation and distribution of marijuana; among other priorities.

See **MARIJUANA** on page 7



The Confederated Tribes in June celebrated the Forty-Sixth Annual Pi-Ume-Sha Treaty Days, commemorating the 160th anniversary of the Treaty of 1855.



Jayson Smith photos

TERO focusing on jobs, local economy

The Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs now have a Tribal Employment Rights Ordinance, or TERO, office.

Mary Sando-Emhoolah is the Warm Springs TERO director. Her office is at the Ventures-Tribal Construction building at the industrial park.

Mary and husband Michael own and operate the construction trucking company Emhoolah Trucking Co.

They started the business in the

1990s. Over the years they have worked with the Grand Ronde and Umatilla TERO offices. "We've always wanted to see a TERO office in Warm Springs, and now it's finally happened," Mary was saying this week.

The benefits of the program will be many for Warm Springs, she said. The office will facilitate the hiring of tribal members and other Native American residents for Oregon Department of Transportation and other construction projects in

the region.

There will be the jobs for local residents, which will help keep money circulating on the reservation, providing more economic opportunities, Emhoolah says.

Too often the money flows one-way off the reservation: "It's like someone having a barbecue in your backyard, and you're not invited," she says.

Among the first tasks for the TERO office will be negotiating the boundary area with ODOT.

The TERO office will work with the regional contractors to get them certified in the TERO program.

Another project will be identifying the local residents with the qualifications to participate in the program, such as heavy-equipment operators.

Training for the local workforce is another aspect of the program. Tribal Council earlier this year approved the TERO program.

Royal Legacy



The Museum at Warm Springs hosted the opening of the new exhibit *Royal Legacy: Miss Warm Springs Past and Present*. The exhibit opening featured a horse parade, and traditional dancers.



Alyssa Macy photos

Fourth saw small blazes

There were nine small fireworks-related fires on the reservation on the Fourth of July.

These were small blazes, averaging about a tenth of an acre in size, as reported by Fire Management.

This year saw added July 4 precautions from Fire and Safety, as the reservation is experiencing a drought.

Earlier in the week, before the Fourth, a 40-acre blaze burned in the Simnasho area.

The cause of this blaze was still under investigation by Fire Management, as of earlier this week.



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